



MEDIA RELEASE

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER AT THE LIBRARY

Magic and Make-Believe Happen at the Central, Goleta, and Solvang Libraries

SANTA BARBARA, CA – May 22, 2013

The annual Summer Reading Program, "Dig Into Reading," kicks off at the Santa Barbara Central Library, the Goleta Library, and the Solvang Library with a Stuffed Animal Sleepover on Thursday, June 13th. Children are encouraged to drop off a favorite stuffed animal at the Goleta, Solvang, or Central Library between 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. that day. Once the libraries close, the stuffed animals will "come to life" in the library, and library staff and volunteers will capture their after-hours antics on film. Children are invited to return after 12 noon the next day or anytime over the weekend to pick up their stuffed animals, along with a photo of their animal's adventures, a certificate of participation, and other special surprises. The Goleta and Central Libraries are open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Solvang Library is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Children who forget to bring an animal can sign up to follow the adventures of a Library character during this **free** event. The Goleta Library is located at 500 N. Fairview Ave. in Goleta; the Central Library is located at 40 E. Anapamu St. in Santa Barbara; and the Solvang Library is located at 1745 Mission Drive in Solvang.

The Santa Barbara Public Library System joins over 40 other California libraries in hosting a stuffed animal sleepover as part of their "Dig Into Reading" themed Summer Reading Program, which instills a lifelong love of reading by encouraging children to read and participate in fun, educational events over the summer. This program was made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a generous gift from the Junior League of Santa Barbara, the support of CVS pharmacy, and the continuing support of the Friends of the Santa Barbara and Solvang Libraries. The downtown event coincides with the Chase Free Thursday Evening Program at the neighboring Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Families will receive **free** admission to the Art Museum between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. after dropping off their stuffed animal at the Library.

For more information, contact the Santa Barbara Central Library at 805-564-5603, Goleta Library at 805-964-7878, or Solvang Library at 805-688-4214. Visit the library system's website SBPLibrary.org to find out about this and other programs at the Santa Barbara Public Library System libraries. All library programs are FREE and open to the public.

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- California Library Association Stuffed Animal Sleepover page: http://www.cla-net.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=567#Programming_ideas
- "Dig Into Reading" Summer Reading Program page: <http://www.csllpreads.org/>
- Santa Barbara Museum of Art page: www.sbmuseart.org
- Institute of Museum and Library Services page: <http://www.ims.gov/>
- CVS Pharmacy Website: www.cvs.com